



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.07

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 12/2/2003

GAIN Report Number: AR3049

Argentina

Oilseeds and Products

Update

2003

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Report Highlights:

This is a special report covering the peanut sector.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: Yes
Unscheduled Report
Buenos Aires [AR1]
[AR]

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Production

The planting season for peanuts is early October thru early December. The marketing year (MY) 03/ 04 season did not start off very well as a drought plagued the major growing areas. As of November 19, only approximately 15 percent of total forecast acreage was planted. Rain on November 30 relieved some of the drought conditions, and allowed producers to begin planting. However, planted area is not expected to reach last year's level of 160,000 hectares (has). Some industry sources feel they will be lucky if they reach 100,000 hectares. Others are a little more optimistic and believe planted area will reach approximately 185,000 has.

There have not been many technological advances in the peanut production sector. Producers have experimented with fertilizers but have not seen any significant yield increases. Most peanut production is not irrigated and relies on seasonal rainfall for its moisture needs.

In the early 1980's, 'runner' peanuts were first introduced. Today, approximately 95% of peanut production is 'runner'. 'Redskin' peanuts make up the rest of the production.

Sources estimate MY2002/03 in-shell yields to be 2.1 Metric Tons (MT)/hectare, or 1.47 MT/hectare shelled, slightly lower than the 10-year average of 1.54 MT/hectare.

Shellers make up the bulk of peanut producers in Argentina. Approximately 80% of area in production is managed by 17 shellers. Individual farmers manage the remaining 20 percent of production. Shellers may own or rent the land, the latter being more common.

Peanuts, as well as most other agricultural exports, are assessed an export tax, known in Spanish as 'retenciones'. The tax varies according to the level of processing.

Consumption

The majority of peanuts are processed in-country and exported. Government export taxes make it more attractive to export peanuts shelled, blanched, or in oil or butter form. The export tax for in-shell peanuts is 23.5 percent, the highest of all taxes (see chart).

There are approximately 25 companies that produce blanched, shelled, oil, butter, and/or seeds for export. Sources estimate total processing capacity at 900,000 MT in-shell, of which only 50 percent is in use.

There is one U.S. owned peanut company present in Argentina. It produces mainly 6 qualities of shelled peanuts for export. It has the capability of processing up to 1.5 MT/hour, and a pre-process storage capability of 30,000 MT. Post-process storage includes 6 silos (representing the 6 qualities that they process) capable of storing 300 MT each.

Cold storage facilities are practically nonexistent with the exception of 1 facility at the port in Buenos Aires. Sources report cold storage is not price competitive.

There is very little edible peanut consumption in Argentina. Peanut butter and oil are not a major part of the Argentine diet. Salted or 'honey roasted' peanuts are locally available but on a very small scale (usually street corner vendors or specialty shops).

Trade

Almost all peanut production is exported. There are only two qualities of peanuts recognized by the Argentine government (GOA). These are confectionary and oil quality. However, individual processors and exporters normally break down the qualities further by size.

As previously mentioned, government export taxes are a major factor influencing agricultural exports today. The export tax for processed agricultural products is not as high as the tax for unprocessed agricultural products. The following is a list of export taxes for peanuts and products.

Product	Tax %
Peanuts, in-shell	23.5
Peanuts, shelled	10.0
Peanut Butter	5.0
Peanut Oil	5.0
Blanched Peanuts	5.0
Peanut Meal	5.0
Peanuts, seeds	5.0

Exports MY 02/03			
Peanuts, In-shell			
Destination	Quantity (MT)	Unit Price	FOB
Chile	34	456	15,520
Total	34	456	15,520

Source: NOSIS/Argentine Customs

Exports MY 02/03			
Peanut Butter			
Destination	Quantity (MT)	Unit Price	FOB
Belgium	17,976	117	2,105,854
Canada	60	597	35,823
Chile	10,582	117	1,233,795
United States	218	600	130,710
Thailand	8,772	120	1,055,731
Total	37,608	121	4,561,912

Source: NOSIS/Argentine Customs

Exports MY 02/03			
Peanuts, Shelled			
Destination	Quantity (MT)	Unit Price	FOB
Australia	8,717	600	5,233,279
Belgium	18	230	4,066
Brazil	957	387	369,931
Bulgaria	275	586	161,298
Canada	18,803	539	10,133,626
Chile	2,117	592	1,252,505
Colombia	199	546	108,686
Denmark	873	300	261,963
Dominican Republic	18	633	11,304
Ecuador	36	571	20,538
United Arab Emirates	2,269	607	1,378,222
Spain	1,182	572	676,380
United States	447	739	329,944
France	542	548	297,262
Greece	430	545	234,539
Italy	1,334	638	851,051
Japan	34	722	24,483
Mexico	1,288	553	712,790
Netherlands	69,833	570	39,814,775
Peru	153	600	92,005
Poland	2,121	507	1,074,429
United Kingdom	9,170	490	4,491,953
Germany	1,503	320	480,388
Romania	1,193	504	601,269
Russia	221	453	100,152
South Africa	141	480	67,703
Sweden	60	325	19,552
Suriname	18	587	10,431
Trinidad Tobago	1,047	632	661,765
Ukraine	25	488	12,188
Uruguay	331	526	174,150
Venezuela	494	478	236,100
Total	125,849	555	69,898,725

Source: NOSIS/Argentine Customs

Exports MY 02/03			
Peanuts, Blanched			
Destination	Quantity (MT)	Unit Price	FOB
Australia	10,031	503	5,043,773
Belgium	2,848	642	1,828,689
Bolivia	4	621	2,250
Brazil	973	759	738,403
Bulgaria	75	680	51,000
Canada	3,434	728	2,499,848
Chile	2,567	699	1,794,427
Colombia	163	631	103,088
North Korea	2	1,050	2,205
Denmark	99	714	70,686
Ecuador	19	1,030	19,096
Slovak Republic	99	415	41,276
Spain	2,266	680	1,540,891
United States	3,248	941	3,056,687
Philippines	0	105	20
France	5,293	710	3,756,758
Greece	1,385	699	968,168
Hong Kong	50	515	25,750
Hungary	4,090	651	2,660,988
Israel	205	897	183,624
Italy	3,501	670	2,347,399
Jamaica	114	617	70,628
Japan	10	1,525	15,250
Latvia	977	634	619,529
Mexico	7,367	677	4,986,563
Norway	45	792	35,875
Netherlands	23,430	621	14,554,411
Paraguay	0	1,179	40
Peru	18	721	12,978
Poland	361	620	223,892
United Kingdom	596	624	371,711
Germany	770	582	448,036
Romania	747	592	442,387
Russia	163	511	83,321
Switzerland	0	630	126
Trinidad	24	1,165	27,663
Uruguay	196	1,029	201,741
Venezuela	12	581	6,972
Total	75,183	650	48,836,149

Source: NOSIS/Argentine Customs

Exports MY 02/03			
Peanut Oil			
Destination	Quantity (MT)	Unit Price	FOB
Australia	1,000	617	616,750
Chile	320	630	201,600
China	3,803	589	2,239,241
United States	31,715	575	18,248,574
France	8,112	574	4,653,014
Hong Kong	1,328	708	939,895
Netherlands	29,020	581	16,857,881
Australia	44	670	29,279
Brazil	13	680	8,888
Canada	7	672	4,703
United States	175	686	120,003
New Zealand	43	700	30,100
Total	75,579	582	43,949,927

Source: NOSIS/Argentine Customs

Exports March 2003 - October 2003			
Peanuts, in-shell			
Destination	Quantity (MT)	Unit Price (US\$/MT)	FOB
Chile	10	560	5,600
Total	10	560	5,600

Source: NOSIS/Argentine Customs

Exports March 2003 - October 2003			
Peanut Oil			
Destination	Quantity (MT)	Unit Price (US\$/MT)	FOB
Australia	500	1,100	550,000
France	3,220	962	3,098,101
Netherlands	21,494	715	15,358,754
Brazil	31	909	28,632
Canada	13	940	11,961
United States	126	1,220	153,729
New Zealand	42	700	29,400
Total	25,426	756	19,230,578

Source: NOSIS/Argentine Customs

Exports March 2003 - October 2003			
Peanuts, shelled			
Destination	Quantity (MT)	Unit Price (US\$/MT)	FOB
Angola	89	636	56,700
Australia	4,755	801	3,810,016
Belgium	50	565	28,137
Brazil	106	525	55,828
Bulgaria	324	1,158	374,931
Canada	9,878	536	5,294,816
Chile	1,264	670	847,021
Colombia	919	788	724,408
Denmark	957	531	508,001
United Arab Emirates	1,971	611	1,205,166
Spain	444	722	320,541
United States	674	786	530,371
Hungary	349	717	250,495
Italy	0	900	135
Italy	3,150	802	2,524,992
Japan	34	822	28,038
Mexico	1,040	745	774,806
Netherlands	32,595	684	22,287,842
Poland	1,401	645	903,570
United Kingdom	5,226	681	3,556,290
Czech Republic	50	680	33,708
Germany	61	549	33,562
Romania	1,174	677	794,679
Russia	0	800	120
South Africa	2,297	594	1,364,637
Sweden	41	534	21,935
Suriname	106	645	68,446
Trinidad Tobago	1,342	683	917,203
Ukraine	135	622	84,100
Uruguay	135	715	96,559
Venezuela	594	710	422,067
Total	71,163	673	47,919,121

Source: NOSIS/Argentine Customs

Exports March 2003 - October 2003			
Peanuts, Blanched			
Destination	Quantity (MT)	Unit Price (US\$/MT)	FOB
Saudia Arabia	0	1,693	3
Australia	2,774	695	1,928,912
Belgium	3,805	810	3,083,725
Brazil	561	817	458,220
Bulgaria	99	525	52,075

Canada	1,373	694	952,865
Chile	1,928	826	1,593,472
Colombia	201	865	174,049
North Korea	7	1,874	13,215
Spain	1,020	814	830,352
United States	7,150	743	5,314,046
France	4,001	702	2,809,168
Greece	1,193	825	983,965
Hungary	2,759	728	2,008,006
Israel	188	922	173,394
Italy	1,806	797	1,439,276
Jamaica	199	674	134,325
Latvia	1,244	565	702,675
Mexico	3,390	802	2,718,957
Norway	215	943	202,830
Netherlands	18,924	710	13,431,289
Peru	41	700	28,755
Poland	557	681	379,243
United Kingdom	1,042	785	818,170
Germany	2,278	640	1,458,197
Romania	32	859	27,517
Russia	951	678	645,098
South Africa	829	656	543,942
Sweden	75	886	66,459
Trinidad Tobago	21	1,334	27,766
Ukraine	343	745	255,405
Uruguay	137	1,554	212,876
Venezuela	199	985	195,856
Total	59,342	736	43,664,103

Source: NOSIS/Argentine Customs

Exports March 2003 - October 2003			
Peanut Butter			
Destination	Quantity (MT)	Unit Price (US\$/MT)	FOB
Chile	3,673	128	471,102
Thailand	3,980	125	497,490
Total	7,653	127	968,592

Source: NOSIS/Argentine Customs